

Appl. No. : 10/601,093
Filed : June 20, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1 and 18. Please add new Claim 29.

1. **(Currently Amended)** A ski for a snow vehicle, the ski comprising a ski body having a generally horizontal bottom surface that contacts the snow when the ski is in use, a ski mounting bracket located on a top side of the ski body, the ski mounting bracket defining at least in part a bracket pivot point where the ski is attached to the snow vehicle wherein the ski pivots about the ski mounting bracket, a wear bar disposed on the bottom side of the ski body, and at least one glide member also disposed on the bottom side of the ski member, the glide member being positioned at least as low as the lowest most part of the wear bar, the glide member being wider than a portion of the wear bar next to the glide member, the entire glide member being disposed either forward or rearward of the bracket pivot point.

2. **(Original)** The ski as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the glide member is disposed forward of the bracket pivot point.

3. **(Original)** The ski as set forth in claim 1, wherein the glide member is disposed rearward of the bracket pivot point.

4. **(Original)** The ski as set forth in claim 1 additionally comprising another glide member, one glide member being disposed forward of the bracket pivot point and the other glide member being disposed rearward of the bracket pivot point.

5. **(Original)** The ski as set forth in claim 1, wherein at least one surface of the glide member is angled in a downward direction away from the ski horizontal surface.

6. **(Original)** The ski as set forth in claim 5, wherein the glide member has a length that is between one quarter and one half the distance between a lowest-most point of the glide member and a center of the pivot point.

7. **(Original)** The ski as set forth in claim 1, wherein the glide member is detachable from the ski body.

8. **(Original)** The ski as set forth in claim 1, wherein the glide member is unitarily formed with the ski body.

9. **(Original)** The ski as set forth in claim 1, wherein the glide member is adjustable independently of the ski body.

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10. **(Original)** The ski as set forth in claim 1, wherein a keel depending from the ski body extends at least partially along the generally horizontal surface, the keel having a lengthwise recess that extends along a keel lower surface, and at least a portion of the wear bar is disposed within the recess in the keel.

11. **(Previously Presented)** The ski as set forth in claim 1 additionally comprising a cleat extending downwardly from an underside of the wear bar.

12. **(Previously Presented)** A ski system for a snow vehicle, the ski comprising at least one steerable ski body positioned below a front portion of the snow vehicle, the ski body having a generally horizontal bottom surface that contacts the snow when the ski is in use, a ski mounting bracket located on a top side of the ski body, the ski mounting bracket defining at least in part a pivot point, the ski being attached to the snow vehicle through a front suspension member at the pivot point, a wear bar disposed on the bottom side of the ski body, and at least one glide member also disposed on the bottom side of the ski body, the glide member having a length of between one quarter and one half of the distance between a lowest-most point of the glide member and a center of the pivot point, the glide member being wider than a portion of the wear bar lying next to the glide member.

13. **(Original)** The ski system as set forth in claim 12, wherein the glide member is positioned at least as low as the lowest-most part of the wear bar.

14. **(Original)** The ski system as set forth in claim 12, wherein the glide member is disposed forward of the bracket pivot point.

15. **(Original)** The ski system as set forth in claim 12, wherein the glide member is disposed rearward of the bracket pivot point.

16. **(Original)** The ski system as set forth in claim 12 additionally comprising another glide member, one glide member being disposed forward of the bracket pivot point and the other glide member being disposed rearward of the bracket pivot point.

17. **(Original)** The ski system as set forth in claim 12, wherein at least one surface of the glide member is angled in a downward direction away from the ski horizontal bottom surface.

18. **(Currently Amended)** A snowmobile comprising an engine, a transmission, a drive track, a steering mechanism, and a ski, the ski having a ski body with a

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generally horizontal bottom surface that contacts snow when the ski is in use, a ski mounting bracket located on a top side of the ski body, the ski mounting bracket defining at least in part a pivot point wherein the ski pivots about the ski mounting bracket, a wear bar extending below the bottom surface of the ski body, and means for preventing at least a portion of the wear bar from entering depressions in a snow surface, said means extending directly below the wear bar and being positioned entirely either forward or rearward of the bracket pivot point.

19. **(Original)** The snowmobile as set forth in claim 18, wherein said means is disposed forward of the ski bracket pivot point.

20. **(Previously Presented)** The snowmobile as set forth in claim 18, wherein said means is disposed rearward of the ski bracket pivot point.

21. **(Previously Presented)** The snowmobile as set forth in claim 18, wherein said means is wider than a portion of the wear bar positioned next to said means.

22. **(Previously Presented)** The ski as set forth in claim 1, wherein the glide member has vertically extending side portions, and the wear bar is captured between the side portions of the glide member.

23. **(Previously Presented)** The ski as set forth in claim 1, wherein the glide member has a length of between one quarter and one half of a distance between a lowest-most point of the glide member and a center of the pivot point.

24. **(Previously Presented)** The ski system as set forth in claim 12, wherein the glide member has a pair of opposing sides, and the wear bar is positioned between the sides of the glide member.

25. **(Previously Presented)** The ski system as set forth in claim 24, wherein the sides of the glide member extend upwardly and capture the wear bar therebetween.

26. **(Previously Presented)** The snowmobile as set forth in claim 18 additionally comprising another means for preventing the wear bar from entering depressions in the snow surface, one of said means being entirely disposed forward of the bracket pivot point and the other one of said means being entirely disposed rearward of the bracket pivot point.

27. **(Previously Presented)** A ski for a snow vehicle, the ski comprising a ski body having a generally horizontal bottom surface that contacts the snow when the ski is in use, a ski mounting bracket located on a top side of the ski body, the ski mounting bracket defining at

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least in part a pivot point where the ski is attached to the snow vehicle, a wear bar disposed on the bottom side of the ski body, and at least one glide member also disposed on the bottom side of the ski member, the glide member being positioned at least as low as the lowest most part of the wear bar, the glide member being wider than a portion of the wear bar next to the glide member, the entire glide member being disposed either forward or rearward of the bracket pivot point, wherein at least one surface of the glide member is disposed directly beneath at least a portion of the wear bar and is angled in a downward direction away from the ski horizontal surface.

28. **(Previously Presented)** A ski for a snow vehicle, the ski comprising a ski body having a generally horizontal bottom surface that contacts the snow when the ski is in use, a ski mounting bracket located on a top side of the ski body, the ski mounting bracket defining at least in part a pivot point where the ski is attached to the snow vehicle, a wear bar disposed on the bottom side of the ski body, and at least one glide member also disposed on the bottom side of the ski member, the glide member being positioned at least as low as the lowest-most part of the wear bar, the glide member being wider than a portion of the wear bar next to the glide member, the glide member having a length that is between one quarter and one half the distance between a lowest-most point of the glide member and a center of the pivot point, the entire glide member being disposed either forward or rearward of the bracket pivot point, wherein at least one surface of the glide member is angled in a downward direction away from the ski horizontal surface.

29. **(New)** The ski as set forth in Claim 1 additionally comprising a keel, wherein at least a portion of the glide member has a width generally as wide as the width of an adjacent portion of the keel and extends beyond the width of the wear bar.